

Connecticut



Charter Oak Chatter

September 2016

President's Message ~ Bard Fuller



Kathy and I had a wonderful time exploring the Old Deerfield Village Museum while at the Greenfield, Mass rally site. Thanks go out to Mike and Sandy Sasuta along with Larry Lamontagne for making this Tri-State Rally a successful event.

Although work called us back to CT, our hearts and minds were with you all as the caravan numbers increased to 11 rigs by the time you entered the Region 1 Rally site. I have heard from many of you that the Region Rally and the Snow Goose festivities were exceptional. Thank you to all who made this rally and caravan a success. To name a few: Gilles and Joyce Rousseau, Larry Lamontagne, Rich and Kathy Kushman, Bob and Ruth Scott and a HUGE shout out to the entire Quebec Unit!! In this issue you will relive the week of Canadian hospitality, friendship and adventure.

September will bring two new rally locations. Many of us will be visiting Plymouth, Mass for the "Fun to the Rock Rally" sponsored by the New England Unit the weekend of September 9-11. Our premier fall unit event is the "Norman Rockwell Rendezvous" in the heart of the Berkshire Hills. Bill and Evie Watts will be our hosts at a beautiful campground in Austerlitz, NY.. Since reservation deadlines have passed, if you are interested in attending, please contact the hosts for potential availability.

October will be our Fall Business/Induction Dinner Meeting at the Manchester Country Club. Be sure to

Continued page 6

Where have you been this Summer?

Looking for pictures from everyone that has been camping this summer at a non-rally to be published in the October issue. Please email them to Bard (bardfuller@hotmail.com)

Question

What question can never be answered, "Yes?"

Answer page 9

Road to Region One ~ Joyce Rousseau

I had suggested to Rich Kushman that articles be written by all participants centering on the "best" event of the trip to Montmagny, Quebec. I soon gave up trying to decide on the best, so instead please enjoy sharing in many of the times that made me smile! (Since we did not travel to Greenfield, Mass. our apologies for starting at stop 2.) These include:

- Meeting old and new friends in Orford, NH. Our newest family, the Allers, bring energy, 2 young girls and lots of fun as they join our group. Gilles, I and Rick Cipot went kayaking on the Connecticut River within an hour of arrival in Orford. The next morning we saw a bald eagle perched in a tree watching us. We also got to meet and enjoy a 12 week old puppy thanks to the Carlls from Cape Cod.



Eileen & Don Aller with Nicole & Frida

- Gathering 12 units at the border and sharing a laugh before going on to the campground at Compton.



Continued page 2

LINK OF THE MONTH

[WALLY'S GOLD AIRSTREAM](http://localadventurer.com/wally-byam-stella-gold-airstream/)

<http://localadventurer.com/wally-byam-stella-gold-airstream/>

**WELCOME TO
CANADA**

Where We Don't Care Who You Marry,
So Long As You Both Watch Hockey



TRI STATE RIVER RALLY

July 29-31, 2016 ~ Sandy Sasuta



The kick-off rally for the Region 1 Caravan to Quebec at the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield, MA, turned



out great as we had the whole Fairgrounds to ourselves, plus a beautiful building to use. The weather was hot

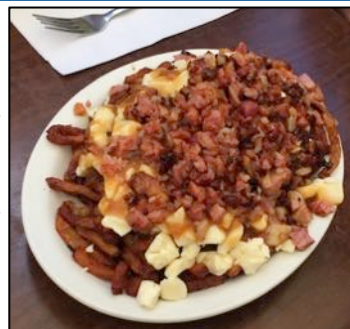


Kathleen, Mike, Sandy, Ruth, Roger, and me snapping - Bridge of Flowers.

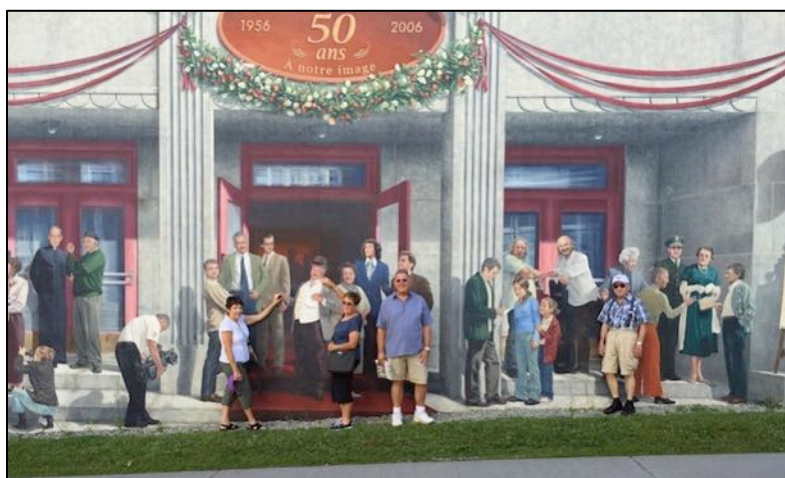
Continued page 3

Road to Region Continued

- ♦ Eating the best ice cream in Quebec in Coaticook. Some of us even had 2 servings!
- ♦ Sharing a Quebec delicacy, "poutine," with the group at happy hour. I think it became a favorite dish of some!
- ♦ Joining a young Quebec girl trying to find elves, butterflies and a host of other things in the wall murals in Sherbrooke.



One of 72 varieties of Poutine.



Some of these folks don't look like the others.

- ♦ Walking along the Magog River gorge in wonder at the power and beauty.
- ♦ Seeing our 12 units in caravan on the highways in Quebec. We all fit on an entrance ramp to a rest area for a potty and lunch break and to share in the sight. We were impressive.



- ♦ Enjoying the sights in and around Montmagny (Had you heard of the accordion museum?) and the gracious hospitality of our hosts. The tides change by about 12 feet in the area and what was once covered in water would be mud a little while later. Kayaking this time brought us to the St. Lawrence River where

Near Orford on the CT River.

Continued page 3



River Rally Continued

with hit or miss showers, but we had enough power to run the A/C. The area offers much for sightseeing...we went to Kringle Candle complex and Bridge of Flowers in Shelbourne Falls, a quaint little town with many bistros.



Guy & Laura Weik, Wayne Rocheleau & Sarah Nelson at Orford.

The ten units in attendance were: New members Don & Eileen, Frida & Nicole Allers, Carl & Evelyn Amick, new affiliates Eddie & Nanci Carll, Rick & Sandi Cipot, Ruth & Roger Crockett, Bard & Kathy Fuller, Rich & Kathy Kushman, Larry Lamontagne, Michael & Sandy Sasuta, and Guy & Laura Weik. Co-host Larry Lamontagne and Michael did a super job flipping blueberry pancakes on Saturday and making delicious egg sandwiches on Sunday. The Saturday Pot Luck had a wide variety of dishes followed by root beer floats for dessert. Thanks to all who attended and participated. It was a fun filled weekend that continued with a fun filled caravan. ~



I think Mike is getting goosed?

Road to Region Continued

we got to test our strength against the wind and the tide. We had a sunny and hot day in Quebec City to see the Old Town and enjoy its charm.

- ♦ Watching the Snow Goose presentation by the town and unit members. Gilles got an honorary Goose Hat that we all had to try on.



- ♦ Gilles enjoyed his visit to the Quarantine Island, similar to our Ellis Island in origin. He enjoyed learning this part of the history of the region. It was well organized and very informative.



After considering all of these things perhaps the best part was helping to lead a varied and wonderfully friendly group of Airstreamers to an area we know well. Gilles and I both thank you for your eagerness to follow our lead in a foreign country with smiles and the typical Airstream spirit of adventure. We look forward to the next time! ~

A group of geese is called a flock, gaggle, or skein.



Road to Region One Rally ~ Guy and Laura Weik (#3199)

Since retiring 3 years ago, we typically spend 8-10 weeks in our Airstream. The Road to Region One, however, was our first time joining a caravan, and we thoroughly enjoyed the experience! Our excursions into Sherbrooke, St-Jean-Port-Joli, Montmagny and Quebec were so interesting, the countryside along with way was beautiful, and seeing all those Airstreams in my mirror whenever we rounded a curve in the road was thrilling. Most of all, it's the people



Eddie and Nanci Carll with cute little Oliver.

who make the experience special for us, and we sure lucked out on the Road to Region One! We found all the French Canadians to be very welcoming and friendly. Our group consisted of many

seasoned Airstreamers, but also included other first-time caravaners like us. By the time we left Quebec, we felt fortunate to have developed so many new friendships. Participants ranged in age from 5 to 85; our pets were also as diverse, from a brand new puppy to our 13 year old black lab; and our trailers, not to be outdone, ranged from Bard and



Amazing likeness to Laura found in this mural.



Rest stop on the way to Montmagny - quite the lineup.



Only as far as Orford but Larry wears the goose.

Kathy's antique Bambi to Don and Eileen's new Pendleton (that was out on its maiden voyage)! Many thanks to Mike, Sandy and Larry for your wonderful breakfasts in Greenfield; to Gilles and Joyce for the wonderfully organized sharing of Gilles' homeland, all the translating and leading us into Compton and Montmagny; and to everyone for contributing to the most incredible Happy Hours ever! ~

Reminds me of my safari in Africa. Somebody forgot the corkscrew and for several days we had to live on nothing but food and water. ~ W. C. Fields

There was nowhere to go but everywhere, so just keep on rolling under the stars. ~ Jack Kerouac



Joining the Road to Region ~ Evie and Bill Watts

We linked up with the caravan traveling from Orford to Compton totally by chance on Route 114 north of Island Pond, Vermont. We tailed along through customs in Norton and on to Camping de Compton, the final stop before the Region One Rally Site in Montmagny, Canada. Our caravan made quite a statement as it meandered through the charming villages, rolling hills and lush green meadows.

The memories we took home are many and varied – manicured lawns and flowers...the painted wall murals in Sherbrooke...poutine and ice cream...historic old Quebec City...Quarantine Island and being disinfected...Snow Geese... the beautiful French language...church steeples on the horizon...and meeting International President Richard Girard and first lady Jan.

It was a wonder Rally. We thank our hosts, Quebec Unit 125 for their hard work and gracious hospitality. ~



Nicole's happy hour food combo - chocolate and cherry licorice sticks with a generous helping of sushi - delish!



WBCCI President & First Lady, Richard & Jan Girard, posing, could it be with their new Airstream?



Saturday dinner with fun music from Polyphonie.



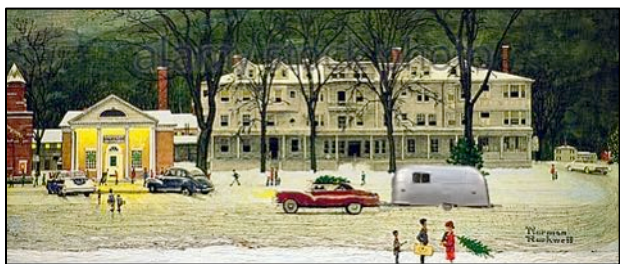
Door Prize time - nice mug for Nicole and Sandy got the objet d'art.



Hancock Shaker Village in the Berkshire Hills



Hancock Shaker Village is just another interesting destination you will find in the Berkshire Hills. While attending the Norman Rockwell Museum Rendezvous consider visiting this former Shaker village established back in 1791. Here a utopia communal lifestyle was practiced up until the middle of the twentieth century by a people having high moral and spiritual values. These people embraced technology while excelling in their craftsmanship. Twenty historic buildings are present including this well known round shaker barn. ~



Come to the Norman Rockwell Rendezvous.

Updates about our 2017 schedule Save the Dates



As many of you know the 2017 International Rally will take place in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It is scheduled for July 22-29. This is a change from the last 60 years which had it always ending on the 4th of July. This rally has become very popular and unfortunately all the full service sites have already been taken. Dry camping (generator & solar) sites remain available. If you have an inclination to attend and have not yet reserved a site with utilities call WBCCI headquarters (937)596-5211 and ask to be put on the standby list.

Region One gathering will be May 5-7 2017 in Fryeburg Maine. This is a scaled down region rally with the usual business meeting but fewer activities.

The New York City "Base Camp Rally" on the Hudson River will be returning in 2017 with Per Hamnqvist as your host. Save the dates June 1-4, 2017. ~

Presidents Message

Continued

get your reservations in to Jim and Corinne Burnham. Come to welcome your new officer team and learn about their exciting 2017 schedule. If you are interested in hosting a rally or assisting in organizing a rally in 2017 let Evie Watts know. We are always looking for another fun location with new faces to greet us. Remember that the club schedule is only as good as we as a collective group make it.

Thanks go to Toni Nolder for agreeing to host the December Holiday Party. She has booked an exceptional location - the Gelston House next to the Goodspeed's Opera House in East Haddam, CT! Save the date of December 4. Keep your eyes open for more information. ~

Bard's: Good, Bad, and Bizarre Airstreams

Off road modifications to some Airstream motorhomes to make you feel at home in the Baja.





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Mark & Marie continue their 34' Gussy Up
More photos posted to the club web gallery.



Ladder at Home Depot \$36.00, blue bicycle \$300.00, outtakes of Bard & Kathy - priceless...

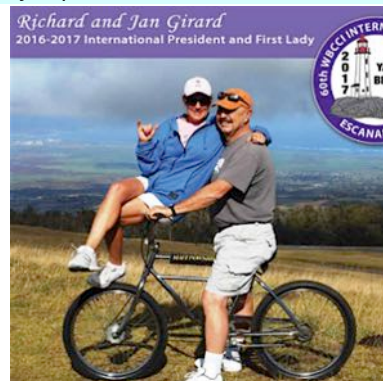


Photo outtakes.....Can you say AWKWARD?.....We have such respect for you Richard & Jan!!! ~ Bard



We had a great caravan to Region 1. Thanks to the **KUSHMANS** for choosing the Pastures CG in Orford, NH,

which was right on the CT River. **JOYCE & GILLES ROUSSEAU** along with **RICK CIPOT** quickly ran to the river with their kayaks. After crossing the Canadian border, all 12 Airstreams amazingly regrouped in the parking lot and enjoyed a cookie break, including the **WATTS** who suddenly appeared. Thanks to the **ROUSSEAUS** for planning a visit to the unique town of Sherbrooke which had 14 murals located throughout the town, street cafes, and a great creamery nearby. Not to be forgotten was the famous poutines dish at the happy hour supplied by the **ROUSSEAUS**. Also **EDDIE & Nanci CARLL**, our new affiliates, had just picked up their new 3 month old King Charles puppy "Oliver" who brought many smiles. After the Region 1, Eddie & Nanci continued touring the Gaspé Peninsula and area. Just heard that they traded in their 23' Airstream for a 30' Int'l. Serenity and got a new GMC Crew Cab Denali HD. I think "Oliver" decided that he needed more room. Happy Airstreaming....we sure look forward to seeing your new rig.

ROSE TAVARES has 2 torn rotator cuff tendons in her right shoulder, ouch! Both **ROSE & JOHN** are working hard doing physical therapy. Happy to hear that **HELEN SANDALL** is home and improving.

Please remember to pay your 2017 dues by October 1, 2016. Pay on line at www.wbccci.org or mail a check to Sandy Sasuta, 476 Milford Point Road, Milford, CT 06460, payable to Charter Oak CT. (\$80.00 for regular members, \$15.00 for Life Members and Affiliates) Thank you. ~



The Falcon Will Fly Again ~ by Bard Fuller

Russ Fuller is doing a total tear down and rebuild of a very intriguing 1959 Airstream Falcon. Russ rescued the trailer from a local salvage yard literally moments before it was to be sent to the crusher.

Historically, the Falcon model trailer is rare and few are aware of their existence in the Airstream lineup. They were made mostly in 1959 although a few have been identified as 1960 models. The 22 foot trailers were the most popular sized Airstreams of their time and several different models were made. Each had a unique floor plan including the popular Safari and Flying Cloud models. These two names are mainstays in the Airstream line up even 60 years later.



The Falcon name became forgotten. As a 22 footer it was designed for a couple. It had a large bathroom, large amount of storage with a floor-to-ceiling chest of drawers as well as a full wardrobe closet. The front boasted a large L-shaped gaucho seating area. No one knows how many were made as Airstream used the same serial number on multiple trailers during this time. Very few have survived and today they are considered quite a rare bird. ~



Airstream Anatomy 101

~ by Bard Fuller

Russ has gutted the trailer including all the interior aluminum side panels, the floor. He then lifted the entire shell from the frame. All this necessitated the removal of just over 4000 rivets. The remains of the frame have been refurbished by welding new steel plates replacing the rotted areas, wire brushing, sand blasting and priming with ZeroRust and Rustoleum.

New leaf springs, axle, wheels and shocks were all bolted into position. New gray and black water tanks were secured within the frame. On the top of the frame was secured tongue and groove plywood backed by a reflective insulating liner.



Russ had me over the day that the frame went back under the shell, which had been suspended high on jacks in his backyard. Easier said than done as this body unit was like a wet noodle and flimsy as all get out. It was a challenge to settle it into true alignment and secure it to the new plywood sub floor.

It is interesting to note that only two of the body ribs are attached to the frame, each at the back of the trailer, by two inch angle irons. The forward part of the frame is attached to an 18 inch angle plate which is riveted to the exterior skin just behind the propane tanks. For the most part, the aluminum shell is fastened by way of an aluminum C channel which is screwed only to the sub floor. The C channel, in turn, has 487 rivets fastening it to the perimeter skin....but who's counting. This is definitely not a weekend project!! ~





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September 2016

SEPTEMBER

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

09/03 Bob & Ruth Scott
 09/04 John & Rose Tavares
 09/06 Sharon Henschel
 09/06 Bob & Helen Sandall
 09/11 Wayne & Susan Rutty
 09/11 Carolyn L. Knight
 09/13 Bill & Candy Korb
 09/15 Paul & Judy Good
 09/22 Bill & Sandra Flood
 09/23 Mark & Marie Lupien
 09/24 Rich & Dottie Walbridge
 09/25 Nanci Carl
 09/25 John Stoddard
 09/26 Bob Scott
 09/28 Michael & Lianne Rutty

OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS / ANNIVERSARIES

10/01 Barbara Moyer
 10/03 Dan & Karen Olah
 10/03 Bard & Kathy Fuller
 10/04 Eileen Allers
 10/04 Wiley Downing
 10/05 Frank White
 10/05 Fran Ingallinera
 10/06 Dottie Walbridge
 10/07 Bill Flood
 10/08 Mark Lupien
 10/08 Gene Hickey & Charlotte LaRocca
 10/09 Serafina M. Bachar
 10/10 Eddie Carl
 10/10 Raymond & Cynthia Richard
 10/12 Dick Bartram
 10/12 Niels Rosenbeck
 10/16 Roger & Ruth Crockett
 10/21 Susan Rutty
 10/22 William & Evelyn Watts
 10/24 Gail Downing
 10/27 Michael Rutty
 10/27 Bob Landry

Contribute Pictures to the Charter Oak Website

Visit the gallery

<http://connecticut.wbcci.net>

Do you have pictures for the Gallery?

Send them to rich.kath@icloud.com

The small print: image should be no smaller than 800x600 px - sending from phone use Large size not original, and will be approved by the editor before posting.

FOR SALE

AIRSTREAM

1970 Airstream 25' Caravanner,
 Exterior refinished by P&S in Ohio.
 Rock guards, awning, Fantastic Fan,
 Catalytic Heater, A/C, and
 Microwave....includes all trailering
 equipment. Contact Bob Henschel
 860-274-3768



WANTED

Airstream B-Van

Contact Rick & Beth Petrie

203-932-2184 tprobe47@att.net

TWENTY YEARS FROM
 NOW YOU WILL BE
 MORE DISAPPOINTED
 BY THE THINGS YOU
 DIDN'T DO THAN
 BY THE ONES YOU
 DID DO. SO THROW
 OFF THE BOWLINES.
 SAIL AWAY FROM
 THE SAFE HARBOR.
 CATCH THE TRADE
 WINDS IN YOUR
 SAILS. EXPLORE.
 DREAM. DISCOVER.

—Mark Twain



LINKS

Connecticut Unit Website:.....<http://connecticut.wbcci.net/>
 Cape Cod Unit:.....<http://capecod.wbcci.net/>
 Nice assortment of links:.....www.airstreamtrailers.com
 Region One Website:.....<http://region1.wbcci.net/>
 Airstream Life:.....<http://airstreamlife.com/>
 WBCCI:.....<http://www.wbcci.org/>

MISC – Contact Bob Henschel

860-274-3768

One brand new Catalytic Heater,
 “Still in the box, never used”. Brand
 Name: “The CAT”. It is vented, &
 flameless, comes with Honeywell
 Thermostat & all other parts for
 complete installation, was
 \$350.00, selling for \$200.00.

2 Zip Dee Blue & Silver folding chairs
 with 2 leg extensions/excellent
 condition/selling for \$100.00 for
 the 4 pieces.

Editor: Richard Kushman
 Story Teller Lois Price
 Info & Pictures:..... Sandy Sasuta
 Pictures Gilles Rousseau
 Printing:..... Joyce Rousseau
 Proof Reader: Kathleen Kushman

Answer

Are you asleep?

*You can't hum
while holding
your nose
closed.*